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Division

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HEADQUARTERS  
Second Battalion, Ninth Marines  
Third Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
FPO San Francisco California, 96602

68/888

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5 of 12

3:JMS:trt  
1 September 68

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: Commanding General, Third Marine Division.  
Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 August to 31 August 1968.

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
      (b) FMFPacO 5750.8

Encl: (1) Second Battalion, Ninth Marines Command Chronology.

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. Downgraded to unclassified when Sections I, II, III, IV, V, VII and VIII are removed from enclosure (1).

SEARCHED

RE Hensel

RECORDED  
R. E. HENSEL  
Second Battalion, Ninth Marines  
By direction  
FPO San Francisco California 96602

Copy to:

1 - CO, First Marines  
1 - CO, Fourth Marines Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
1 - CO, Ninth Marines, Third Marine Division  
1 - CO, Task Force Mike  
1 - CG, Third Marine Division period 1 August to 31 August 1968  
4 - File

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
      (b) FMFPacO 5750.8

DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

ENCL: (1) Second Battalion, Ninth Marines Command Chronology.

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is submitted.

2. Downgraded to unclassified when Sections I, II, III, IV, V, VII and VIII are removed from enclosure (1).

2 NOV 1968/9TH MAR

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HEADQUARTERS  
 Second Battalion, Ninth Marines  
 Third Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
 FPO San Francisco California, 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY1 August 1968 to 31 August 1968INDEX

Section I	-	Organizational Data
Section II	-	S-1 Chronology
Section III	-	S-2 Chronology
Section IV	-	S-3 Chronology
Section V	-	S-4 Chronology
Section VI	-	S-5 Chronology
Section VII	-	Communications Chronology
Section VIII	-	Medical Chronology
Section IX	-	Chaplain's Chronology

Second Battalion, Ninth Marines  
 Third Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
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COMMAND CHRONOLOGY1 August 1968 to 31 August 1968INDEX

Section I	-	Organizational Data
Section II	-	S-1 Chronology
Section III	-	S-2 Chronology
Section IV	-	S-3 Chronology
Section V	-	S-4 Chronology
Section VI	-	S-5 Chronology
Section VII	-	Communications Chronology
Section VIII	-	Medical Chronology

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## SECTION I - Organizational Data

1. Designation/Location. 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, 31 August 1968,  
Co I in and Quang Tri.

2. Period Covered by Report. 1-31 August 1968.

3. Name/Rank of Commanding Officer and Staff including T/O Billet Assignments.

Commanding Officer	LtCol F. S. KNIGHT	1-31 August
Executive Officer	Maj C. H. JOHNSON	1-10 August
	Maj F. E. SISLEY	11-31 August
S-1	1stLt R. E. HENSEL	1-31 August
S-2	1stLt W. M. KERR	1-31 August
S-3	Maj J. M. SMITH	1-31 August
S-4	1stLt J. M. G. MITCHELL	1-31 August
Comm Officer	Capt A. W. PAYNE, Jr.	1-16 August
	2dLt W. O. WELDON, Jr.	17-31 August
MI Officer	2dLt J. BORYCKI	1-31 August
Supply Officer	1stLt C. A. THOMPSON	1-31 August
Medical Officer	Lt J. H. KNIGHT	1-31 August
	Lt M. M. SHERMAN	4-31 August
Chaplain	LCDR R. C. FRANKLIN	1-31 August
Company "E"	2dLt G. L. WEISCAM	1-25 August
	Capt J. D. WARD	26-31 August
Company "F"	1stLt A. A. PIERCE	1-27 August
	Capt R. H. SUTTON	28-31 August
Company "G"	Capt D. N. BUCKNER	1-31 August
Company "H"	Capt D. F. WINECOFF	1-31 August
"H&S" Company	1stLt R. E. HENSEL	1-31 August
Supply	1stLt R. E. HENSEL	1-31 August
Medic	2dLt J. M. G. MITCHELL	1-31 August
炊事	Capt A. W. PAYNE, Jr.	1-31 August
	Capt W. O. WELDON, Jr.	1-31 August

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Section II - S-2 Chronology

1. General. During the reporting period, the officer strength has increased, but is still 6 officers under T/O. 8 officers were joined and 7 were lost to this organization. The enlisted strength remained rather constant having joined 133 and dropped 154. A shortage no longer exists in SMCO ranks. The non-effectives at the end of the reporting period totals 3 officers and 203 enlisted. Losses for the month are expected to be 2 officers and 66 enlisted who rotate to CONUS.

a. Strength. The average monthly strength for the period ending 31 August 1968 was as follows:

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>	
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>
36	1056	2	57

Note: Percentage of T/O was about 92%.

b. Losses.

<u>USMC</u>		<u>USN</u>		
<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	<u>OFF</u>	<u>ENL</u>	
Hostile	0	22	0	2
Non-Hostile	1	10	0	1
Admin.	6	122	1	3

Note: The above figures include only those personnel dropped from the rolls. For total casualties see the medical chronology.

(1) Of the battle casualties, 7 were KIA, 1 DOW, 1 died of other causes; malaria, and 13 were WIA. The 13 were transferred by service records to Camp S.D. Butler.

(2) Of the administrative losses, 3 officers rotated to CONUS, 2 were transferred inter-division and 1 transferred intra-division. 88 enlisted rotated to CONUS and 34 were transferred intra-division.

c. Administrative:

(1) State of Morale. Excellent.

(2) Significant Activities of Personal Service. None.

(3) Promotions. 3 Corporals were promoted to Sergeant meritoriously. 46 Lance Corporals were promoted to Corporal, 20 Private First Class were promoted to Lance Corporal and 10 Privates were promoted to Private First Class.

(4) Discipline, Law and Order. 1 Summary court-martial was completed, 2 special court-martials were held and one person was awarded NJP by the Battalion Commander.

(5) Mail. Service has been satisfactory.

Section III - S-2 Chronology**UNCLASSIFIED**PART I

1. General. From 1 August to 3 August, 6 August to 15 August, 17 August to 19 August and 20 to 27 August Second Battalion, Ninth Marines participated in Operation SCOTLAND II. The battalion's mission was security for Vandegrift Combat Base and the high ground surrounding this base.

2. Area. During the operation the operating area can generally be described as the area around Vandegrift Combat Base and also the high ground surrounding this area.

The terrain in this area falls in the category of rugged hills and mountains. Prominent terrain features in this area are Dong Toan vic (YD 0944) and Dong Ngon vic (YD 0944) as well as the ridgeline of which they are a part. Nui Ba Ho vic (YD 014513) and Hill #504 vic (YD 996468) are also prominent. These land masses offer excellent observation over much of the operating area.

Extremely poor trafficability will be encountered in most of the operating area due to the vegetation and steep gradient of land masses. Several of the land masses offered good movement, since they were covered with elephant grass less than three feet high. Other hill areas are covered with thick vegetation, making movement slow and often impossible. Movement in the Ba Long Valley is excellent with populated villages and cornfields predominating. The valley floor surrounding Vandegrift Combat Base is covered with thick scrub, which makes movement difficult.

The principle avenue of approach into and out of Vandegrift Combat Base is Route #9 running north and west. An old French road runs east from Ca Lu into the Ba Long Valley and various lesser footpaths offer varying quality movement. The Quang Tri River running east-west is a river avenue of approach except during the seasonal rains.

Vegetation in this rugged mountainous area is generally a double and/or triple canopy with heavy secondary growth offering excellent concealment to enemy forces harbored there. Some slopes and high ground is covered with tall elephant grass growing to heights of eight to ten feet.

3. Weather. The weather during this period typified the summer heat.

Maximum Temperature	95
Minimum Temperature	75
Total Rainfall	0
Number of Days with Rain	0
Visibility	7 miles
Wind	5-10 knots
Humidity	78%

4. Enemy Situation.

A. General. During this period and throughout this area enemy activity was at a lull.

B. Significant Enemy Activities. N/A.

5. NVA/VC Casualties and Personnel Losses.

NVA KIA (o)	1
POW	0
Detainees	0

6. Enemy Equipment Destroyed or Captured.

Bunkers	25
Fighting Holes	4
AA Positions	1
82mm Ammo	1
82mm Fuses	1
Canteen	1
Poncho	2
Tennis Shoes	1
Assorted Food	1
M-16 Magazines	21
5.56 Ammo	200
Red Smoke	1

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7. NVA/VC Initiated Incidents. N/A

8. Sources of Intelligence. During the reporting period intelligence was gathered through S-2 Ninth Marine Regiment, S-2 Second Battalion, Ninth Marines, Battalion S-2 Scouts and ground troops in the area.

9. Surveillance Devices. N/APART II

1. General. From 3 August to 6 August and from 19 to 20 August, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines participated in Operation KENTUCKY. The battalion's mission was to set up defensive positions and run extensive searching patrols from these outposts.

2. Area. The operating area that the battalion worked in on Operation KENTUCKY can generally be described as the central and northern portion of Leatherneck Square and the area north of Con Thien.

The terrain of the operating area can be described as piedmont with large abandoned rice paddies. Prominent terrain features in the area of Operation KENTUCKY are the MSR running from Cam Lo to the northern outpost of Con Thien, Hill #158 Nui Con Thien vic (YD 115702) and the trace running from Con Thien to the artillery outpost at Gio Linh vic (YD 214743).

Trafficability in the area of operations range from good to fair. In the area of dense vegetation foot troop movement was hindered. Trafficability in the rice paddy areas was good and no problems were encountered. Track vehicles can be used in the rice paddy area and most of Leatherneck Square area.

Avenues of approach in the area are comprised of the MSR running from Cam Lo to Con Thien, Route #1 running from Dong Ha Combat Base to Gio Linh and the prominent east-west trail running from Route #1 vic (YD 212696) to the MSR vic (YD 121688) passing through Phu Oc vic (YD 144697), Loc Son vic (YD 166701) and Phu The vic (YD 179699). Enemy avenues of approach include a vast network of well used trails and roads throughout the operating area. Route #561 running from the southern boundary of the DMZ vic (YD 154741) is the primary access route.

Vegetation in the operating area can be described as thick scrub growth four to six feet high. In the rice paddy area elephant grass will be encountered. Also thick hedgerows will be found around the large rice paddies.

3. Weather. The weather during this period typified the summer heat.

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7. NVA/VC Initiated Incidents. During the reporting period NVA/VC initiated 3 incidents against Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. The breakdown is as follows:

Artillery	1
Contacts	2

8. Sources of Intelligence. Intelligence was gathered during and prior to Operation KENTUCKY through S-2 1st Marine Regiment, S-2 Second Battalion, Ninth Marines, Battalion S-2 Scouts and ground troops in the area.

9. Surveillance Devices. N/A.

### PART III

1. General. From 15 August to 17 August 1968, Second Battalion, Ninth Marines participated in Operation LANCASTER II. The battalion's mission was security for Camp J.J. CARROLL and the Rock Pile.

2. Area. The operating area for this period can be described as the area immediately surrounding Camp J.J. CARROLL and the Rock Pile.

The terrain around Camp J.J. CARROLL and the Rock Pile can be described as rugged hills and mountains. Prominent terrain features in the operating area are Dong Ha Mountain vic (YD 0159), Dong Kio vic (YD 0558) and About Gao vic (YD 0659), also the Main Supply Route is prominent.

There were no problems with trafficability during the reporting period because the battalion did not move from the defensive position.

The two main avenues of approach in the operating area are the MSR and Route #9.

Vegetation in these areas can be described as extremely dense in the mountainous area with double or triple canopy. A few of the hills and mountains have elephant grass covering them.

3. Weather. The weather during this period typified the summer heat.

Maximum Temperature	93
Minimum Temperature	78
Total Rainfall	0
Number of Days with Rain	0
Visibility	7 miles
Humidity	78%
Wind	3 knots

4. Enemy Situation. N/A.

5. NVA Casualties and Personnel Losses. N/A.

6. Enemy Equipment Captured or Destroyed. N/A.

7. NVA/VC Initiated Incidents. N/A.

8. Sources of Intelligence. N/A.

9. Surveillance Devices. N/A.

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### PART IV

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Maximum Temperature	96
Minimum Temperature	60
Total Rainfall	0
Number of Days with Rain	0
Visibility	7 miles
Humidity	78%
Wind	8 knots

#### 4. Enemy Situation.

A. General. During the reporting periods the enemy showed no indication of defending in the area at this time. Enemy forces encountered during 3 August to 6 August were probably elements from the 27th Independent Battalion. From the 19th of August to the 20th of August enemy forces encountered were probably elements from a tactical unit of the 320th NVA Division, which have been confirmed to be in this area.

B. Significant Enemy Activities. Significant enemy activity during the reporting periods were four contacts with Marine patrols. Also the enemy initiated mortar and artillery attacks. The enemy engaged Marine patrols with small arms fire, automatic weapons fire and supporting arms. The enemy were repulsed with small arms, automatic weapons and supporting arms which included tanks. The enemy broke contact in each incident and retreated from the area. They were pursued and air strikes were called in on the enemy elements while they were making their retreat.

#### 5. NVA Casualties and Personnel Losses.

NVA KIA (o)	32
POW	1
Detainees	0

#### 6. Enemy Equipment Captured or Destroyed.

AK-47's	13	NVA Haversacks	2
RPG-2	2	Medical gear	4
L/Machingun	2	LAAM	1
E-tool	15	Barrel & Receiver for	
Gas Masks	11	machinegun	1
RPG rds	29	Blasting caps (boxes)	2
Chi Com Grenades	42	Comm wire (yds)	1,850
Rice (lbs)	400	Packs	19
82mm rds	151	Cooking Pots	3
Canteen	8	7.62 rds	10
AK-47 magazines	52	Carbine magazines	2
AK-50 drum magazines	6	RPG Booster	2
L/Machinegun ammo	206	Flashlights	3
AK-50 rds	700	Chinese AM Radios	2
DH-10 mines	3	Increments (can)	3
Anti-tank mines	2	Mine Detecting case	1
61mm ammo (cases)	2	Sight .50 cal	1
61mm rds	6	.50 cal ammo	310
Helmets	8	TNT (lbs)	1
Tennis shoes (pr)	2	Mortar fuses	48
AK-47 rds	570	US pod & Rocket	1
AK-50	2	Mortar boosters	2
Automatic pistols	2	Map with Overlays	1
60mm detonators (can)	1	Phone sound powered	1
Ammo vest	1	Primer RPG-2	1
Hand Saw	1	Hansot	1
Pick	3	Documents	120

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1. General. From 27 August to 31 August 1968 Second Battalion, Ninth Marines participated in Operation SCORCHING IR - GROUSDALE. The battalion's mission was to search out and destroy enemy forces and installations in the area west of the Rock Pile.

2. Area. The operating area can generally be described as the area to the west of the Rock Pile. The western boundary can generally be called the 88 grid line, the 58 grid line to the north and the 52 grid line to the south.

The terrain in this area falls in the category of extremely rugged hills and mountainous. Prominent terrain features in this area are Dong Ke Soc vic (XD 912564), Nui Tri Pong vic (XD 901538) and Nui Ba Lao vic (XD 927547). These land masses are very steep.

Extremely poor trafficability will be encountered in the operating area due to the dense vegetation and steep gradient of land masses. Foot troops were confined to column movement and the movement was very slow. Any type of vehicular movement in this area would be impossible.

The principle avenue of approach in the area is Route #9, running west to the Rock Pile. In the area of operation only a few trails were encountered.

3. Weather. Weather during this period typified the ending of summer.

Maximum Temperature	90
Minimum Temperature	78
Total Rainfall	0
Number of Days with Rain	0
Visibility	10 miles
Wind	10 miles
Humidity	80%

4. Enemy Situation.

A. General. Enemy forces encountered during the reporting period could have very possibly been elements of the 52nd NVA Regiment. The enemy is well supplied and is ready to defend this area at this time. The enemy is set up in a very complex bunker system with A-frame type and also some concrete bunkers.

B. Significant Enemy Activities. Significant enemy activities during the reporting period consisted of four different small unit contacts with Marine patrols and mortar attacks. The enemy engaged Marine patrols with small arms, automatic weapons, RPG's and mortars. The Marines returned fire with small arms, automatic and supporting arms. Air strikes were called in on enemy positions. Also the enemy conducted one mortar attack upon the Marines.

5. NVA Casualty and Personnel Losses.

NVA KIA (c)	23
POW	0
Detainees	0

6. Enemy Equipment Destroyed or Captured.

Tennis Shoe (pr)	1	L/Machinegun cannister	1
82mm-rds	2	L/Machinegun	1
Chi-Com Claymores	21	Machinengun barrel	1
SKS	5	AK-47 rds	300
SKS Magazines	1	NVA medical bag	1
AK-47	6	NVA 7.62 gear	1
RPG-2	3	61mm rds	65
RPG-2 rds	5	Assorted documents	1
RPG-7	1	Bunkers	24
NVA .50 cal	1	Fighting Holes	17

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7. NVA/VC Initiated Incidents. During the reporting period NVA/VC initiated 5 incidents against Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. The breakdown is as follows:

Small unit contacts	4
Mortars	1

8. Sources of Intelligence. Intelligence was gathered during and prior to Operation SCOTLAND II -TROUSDALE through S-2 Ninth Marine Regiment, S-2 Second Battalion, Ninth Marines, Battalion S-2 Scouts and ground troops working in and near the area.

9. Surveillance Devices. N/A.

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Section IV - S-2 Chronology

1. General. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines participated in Operation SCOTLAND II from 1 to 3 August, Operation KENTUCKY from 3 to 6 August, Operation SCOTLAND II from 6 to 15 August, Operation LANCASTER II from 15 to 17 August, Operation SCOTLAND II from 17 to 19 August, Operation LANCASTER II from 19 to 23 August, Operation SCOTLAND II from 20 to 27 August and Operation SCOTLAND II - TROUSDALE from 27 to 31 August.

2. Company "E". Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 August to 3 August E/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base. E/2/9 participated in Operation KENTUCKY east of Con Thien from 3 to 6 August, from 6 to 15 August E/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base, E/2/9 manned 3 platoon size positions along Route #9 from 15 to 17 August, from 17 to 27 August E/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base and from 27 to 31 August E/2/9 participated in Operation SCOTLAND II - TROUSDALE west of the Rock Pile.

3. Company "F". Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 to 3 August F/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 3 to 6 August F/2/9 participated in Operation KENTUCKY east of Con Thien, F/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base from 6 to 15 August, from 15 to 17 August F/2/9 participated in Operation LANCASTER II at Camp J.J. CARROLL, from 17 to 19 August F/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 19 to 23 F/2/9 participated in Operation LANCASTER II near the village of Mai Loc, from 23 to 27 August F/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base and from 27 to 31 August F/2/9 participated in Operation SCOTLAND II - TROUSDALE west of the Rock Pile.

4. Company "G". Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 to 3 August G/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 3 to 6 August G/2/9 participated in Operation KENTUCKY east of Con Thien, from 6 to 15 August G/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 15 to 17 August G/2/9 participated in Operation LANCASTER II at the Rock Pile, from 17 to 19 August G/2/9 manned perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base, G/2/9 participated in Operation KENTUCKY east of Con Thien from 19 to 20 August, from 20 to 27 August G/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base and from 27 to 31 August G/2/9 participated in Operation SCOTLAND II - TROUSDALE west of the Rock Pile.

5. Company "H". Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 to 3 August H/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 3 to 6 August H/2/9 participated in Operation KENTUCKY east of Con Thien, from 6 to 15 August H/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 15 to 17 August H/2/9 participated in Operation LANCASTER II at Cam Lo, from 17 to 19 August H/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 19 to 20 August H/2/9 participated in Operation KENTUCKY east of Con Thien, from 20 to 27 August H/2/9 manned the perimeter at Vandergrift Combat Base and from 27 to 31 August H/2/9 participated in Operation SCOTLAND II - TROUSDALE west of the Rock Pile.

6. "H&S" Company. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. From 1 to 3 August Alpha and Bravo Command Groups operated at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 3 to 6 August both command groups participated in Operation KENTUCKY east of Con Thien, from 6 to 15 August both command groups operated at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 15 to 17 August both command groups operated at Camp J.J. CARROLL for Operation LANCASTER II, from 17 to 19 August both command groups operated at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 19 to 20 August Alpha Command Group participated in Operation KENTUCKY east of Con Thien while Bravo Command Group remained at Vandergrift Combat Base, from 20 to

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27 August both command groups operated at Vandergrift Combat Base and from 27 to 31 August both Alpha and Bravo Command Groups participated in Operation SCOTLAND II - TROUSDALE west of the Rock File.

7. Close Combat. During the month of August Second Battalion, Ninth Marines conducted 4 company, 33 platoon and 7 squad size patrols. It also conducted 12 squad size ambushes.

8. Training. Due to operational commitments very little formal training was conducted. There were 133 replacement personnel who received training in accordance with DIVO 1510.3B.

9. Fire Support and Fire Support Coordination.

a. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines was provided with direct fire support for the month of August by 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines, batteries "D", "E", "F" and "W" and by 1st Battalion, 12th Marines battery "B". Tactical control was provided by 2nd Battalion, 12th Marines and 1st Battalion, 12th Marines and technical control was provided by the individual batteries.

b. Second Battalion, Ninth Marines employment of artillery while at Vandergrift Combat Base and on Operations during the month resulted in the following round expenditure: 5260 HE, 350 WP, 236 Illumination and 18 fire crackers. Nature of targets included prep fires, active mortars, NVA bunkers, automatic weapons positions, T-54's, suppressive fires, spotter rounds for air strikes and practice rounds.

c. The artillery support received during the month was considered satisfactory.

10. Air Support.

a. Medevacs. A total of 97 personnel were medevaced during the month.

b. Command and Control. During the month of August 15 visual reconnaissance flights were performed.

c. Resupply. During the month of August 261,434 pounds of supplies were lifted to the units in the field.

d. Troop Lifts. During the month of August 8 troop lifts were employed moving a total of 3,300 personnel.

e. Fixed Wing. During the month of August 25 fixed wing flights were controlled by Second Battalion, Ninth Marines. Also numerous flights were flown in support of the battalion.

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Section V - S-4 Chronology

1. General. The Battalion was constantly on the move during this period. The following is a summary of the operations and areas covered by the Battalion during the month.

DATES	OPERATION & AREA
31 Jul - 3 Aug	SCOTLAND II, Vandegrift Combat Base
3 Aug - 6 Aug	KENTUCKY, near Con Thien
6 Aug - 15 Aug	SCOTLAND II, Vandegrift Combat Base
15 Aug - 17 Aug	LANCASTER II, Camp CARROLL and surrounding area
17 Aug - 19 Aug	SCOTLAND II, Vandegrift Combat Base
19 Aug - 20 Aug	KENTUCKY, near Con Thien
19 Aug - 20 Aug	LANCASTER II, Route #9
19 Aug - 23 Aug	LANCASTER II, south of Camp CARROLL
20 Aug - 27 Aug	SCOTLAND II, Vandegrift Combat Base
27 Aug - 31 Aug	SCOTLAND II - TREGESDALE, west of Rock Pile

Resupply problems were increased as a result of the constantly changing situation. While operating out of Vandegrift Combat Base resupply was effected primarily by helicopter to our position on the surrounding hills. However, when operating in the KENTUCKY area under 1st Marines, supplies were lifted from the LSA in Dong Ha. Difficulty was encountered on a night emergency resupply request for ammunition on 5 August. No ammunition was available at Dong Ha and Route #1 was closed between Dong Ha and Quang Tri making it impossible to transport the ammunition from Quang Tri to the LSA from which we were then operating. It was determined that the ammunition must be lifted from Quang Tri, but after contacting Shore Party we were informed that no nets were available there and apparently there was no established LSA in Quang Tri. This was determined after a helicopter was dispatched and had flown around the area to a number of Landing Zones but could not find any LSA or establish communications with our ground element. Finally the ammunition was driven directly to MAG-39 and loaded internally aboard the helicopter and transported to the field. Since this time an LSA has been established in Quang Tri and Shore Party now has the facilities to handle emergencies in the future. Other than this, no major problems were encountered. However, while OPOON to 3rd Marines at Camp CARROLL and Mai Loc, very little assistance was rendered to Second Battalion, Ninth Marines by their S-4. 3/3 assisted Second Battalion, Ninth Marines by serving hot chow to one company as well as supplying MCI's when initial resupplies were not available. It was necessary to transport supplies by truck from Vandegrift Combat Base to Camp CARROLL and positions along Route #9 just below the base. This would not have been necessary if 3rd Marines had provided a vehicle for use in transporting food, water and supplies to troops in and around Camp CARROLL.

a. Supply.

(1) The supply situation presented no major problems in carrying out the battalions mission. However, the following items were in short supply during the month:

Starters for M274A2's	Antenna Matching Unit
Carburetor for M151A1's	Compasses
Regulators for M151A1's	Sundries Pack
Air Mattresses	Paper plates
Plastic, Knives, Forks & Spoons	Tire 700x16

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Helmet Liners	.45 cal. Pistols
Utilities	MP-40
Flack Jackets	Socks

During this period the situation on BA 386's has improved considerably. During this period 774 BA 386's have been received. At present 1,029 BA 386's are on order.

Items of significant importance received during the month are as follows:

.45 cal. Pistol	10
Refrigerator Unit	1
Poncho Liners	1,000
Water trailer M107	1
Starter Parts for M274A2's	7

b. Ordnance.

(1) The ordnance situation is considered satisfactory. However, the battalion has a deficit of 65 .45 cal. pistols which are on order.

(2) The following items of ordnance type combat essential equipment are on 3rd echelon maintenance.

Machine Gun M106mm 1

(3) The following items of ordnance type combat essential equipment on 2d echelon maintenance are:

Flack Jackets	100
Rifle M16A1	5

During this period the situation on BA 386's has improved considerably. The following items of ordnance type combat essential equipment on order are: 100 M16A1's and 100 M106's.

c. Comm/Elect.

.45 cal. Pistol

(1) The following items of Comm/Elect combat essential equipment on 3rd echelon maintenance are:

Water trailer M107	1
Radio Set PPS-6	1
Radio Set AN/PRC-41	1
Radio Set AN/PRC-47	1
Speech Security Devices KY-8	1

(2) The following items of comm/elect combat essential equipment are on 2d echelon maintenance:

Radio Set AN/PRC-41	1
Radio Set AN/GRC-125	5

(3) The following items of comm/elect combat essential equipment are on order:

Receiving Set No. 5820-642-6355	1
Radio AN/URR-23	1
Radio Set AN/PRC-47 5820-861-3539	2
Radio Set AN/PRC-25 5820-857-0759	3

(4) The situation in the communications section during this period is considered just barely satisfactory due to the maintenance of equipment in 3d echelon repair and the availability of spare parts.

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d. Motor Transport.

(1) The organic motor transport situation has improved somewhat during this period and is considered satisfactory. During this period the battalion had (22) M274A2's on 2d echelon deadline for starters. Some starter parts were received during this period and at present there are (15) M274A2's on 2d echelon deadline.

(2) The below listed items of organic motor transport combat essential equipment are on 3d echelon maintenance:

Trk cargo M-37	1
Trk Platform M274A2	2

(3) The below listed items of organic motor transport combat essential equipment are on 2d echelon maintenance:

Trk Utility M151A1	1
Trk Platform M274A2	15

(4) At present the organic motor transport section has no deficiencies of equipment.

(5) Non-organic transportation support was provided by 3d Motor Transport Battalion through Regimental 9th Marines and was considered satisfactory with the exception of the following: Due to the tactical situation the two 2½ ton trucks given to Second Battalion, Ninth Marines by Regimental 9th Marines were used to support the battalion forward. Thus the battalion rear had no truck support. The problem was alleviated on 20 August by being given one more 2½ ton truck due to continual visits, calls and letters to the Regimental 9th Marines and saturation of P-2. In this period the battalion had (22) M274A2's on 2d echelon deadline for starters. (6) Other logistic support. Classes I, III, IV and V were provided by the LSU at Vandegrift Combat Base. While resupplying out of Dong Ha classes I, III and IV were drawn from FLSG-B. Class V came from the ASP at Quang Tri Combat Base along with all class III. A mess hall has been established at Vandegrift Combat Base and hot chow is now available to the battalion while operating in the field or maintaining strategic positions at the base itself.

2. Operations. See S-3 Chronology.

(3) The below listed items of organic motor transport combat essential equipment are on 3d echelon maintenance:

(1) Primary means of resupply was by CH-46 helicopters. The status of lifts are as follows:

LIFTS) At present the CARGO motor transport PERSONNEL has no deficiencies of equipment.

58	151,365 lbs	125
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(2) Other vehicular support included two 2½ ton trucks from 3rd Motors with 9th Motors providing additional help within Vandegrift Combat Base with one or two five tons daily depending on amount of work to be done. The status of lifts are as follows:

used to support the battalion forward. The 3d Motor Battalion has LIFTS truck support. The CARGO motor transport PERSONNEL has no deficiencies of equipment.

17	204,118 lbs	820
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5. Ammunition Expenditure for the month of August 1968:

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<u>DODAC</u>	<u>NOMENCLATURE</u>	<u>EXPENDED</u>
A127	7.62 Link	19,200
A475	.45 cal. Ball	400
B632	40mm HE	504
B568	60mm HE	1,538
B630	60mm WP	54
B627	60mm Illum	180
C256	81mm HE	1,419
C226	81mm Illum	108
C230	81mm WP	45
C650	106mm HE	0
C651	106mm HEPT	0
C940	Gren Hand	90
H55	Rkt 66mm LAAW	10
G940	Grn Smk Green	25
G945	Grn Smk Yellow	15
K113	Mine AP-M18A	60
L314	Sig Illum Wht Para	12
L315	Sig Grn Star Clust	8
L316	Sig Wht Star Clust	5
L498	Flare, Surface Trip	30
M032	Chg Block TNT 1b.	1500
A071	5.56 Ball	49,123
M756	C-4 Demo Kit 1bs	468

Section VI - S-5 Chronology

1. General: Due to Operational commitments and tactical deployment, Civic Actions were curtailed. No medcaps were conducted but steps are being taken through S-5 to begin projects as soon as Operational commitments allow.

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Section VII - Communication Chronology

1. General. Normal communication support was provided the battalion on the following operations:

(A) 31 July to 2 August	SCOTLAND II
(B) 3 August to 6 August	KENTUCKY
(C) 6 August to 15 August	SCOTLAND II
(D) 15 August to 17 August	LANCASTER II
(E) 17 August to 19 August	SCOTLAND II
(F) 19 August to 20 August	KENTUCKY & LANCASTER II
(G) 20 August to 27 August	SCOTLAND II
(H) 27 August to 31 August	SCOTLAND II - TROUSDALE

2. Wire. Normal wire was installed at Vandegrift Combat Base while the battalion was in static positions between operations.

3. Radio. Normal radio communications was provided the battalion in the field and in the rear and additional PRC-77 and KY-38 was received for evaluation. Continued excellent results with this equipment.

4. Message Center. The message center processed 721 incoming messages and 39 outgoing. Shackles and brevity codes were delivered to the field every 5 days.

5. Difficulties. Shortages of handsets and antennas prevail. A priority requisition has been submitted.

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## Section VIII - Medical Chronology

1. General. During the month of August, the BAS held sick call for 1,077 Marine Corps personnel. No medical civic action program was held.

**2. Sanitation.** Routine daily inspections were made of the battalion rear area.

### 3. Disease, Injuries & Treatment in General:

A. An appropriate hardback rear BAS was put in operation.  
B. The troops are using Dapsone daily in addition to C-P and the incidence of malaria has dropped significantly.  
C. FUO's, dermatologic conditions and rat bites requiring rabies vaccinations continue to effect a significant morbidity.  
D. The incidence of gonorrhoea among men returning from R&R is appalling.

4. Casualties and Hospitalizations There were 4 KIA, 1 DOW, 4 WIE, 16 WIA and 4 NBC's evacuated from the field. Outpatient treatment consisted of 176 shrapnel wounds, 11 FUO, 167 dermatology condition 75 urology infections, 457 miscellaneous conditions, 125 rabies injections and 66 EENT infections.

5. Training. Orientation lectures were given to 93 personnel. The subject matter included personal hygiene, self and buddy aid, venereal disease, care of the fest and the snake problem in Vietnam. On the job training and lectures were given periodically for the corpsmen.

6. Complement. At the close of the month, the BAS had a complement of one Medical Officer and 53 Navy Hospital Corpsmen. There are 3 SNOO's attached with 16 personnel joined and sixteen men transferred. There were 7 non-effectives during the month.

1934-1935. The following is a list of the names of the members of the class.

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Section IX - Chaplain's Chronicle

1. General. During the month of August, both Protestant and Catholic services were provided for Battalion units. Catholic services were conducted by the Battalion Chaplain; protestant services were conducted by various neighboring chaplains and in their absence, by our own Protestant layleaders.

Section X - Chaplain's Chronicle

1. General. During the month of August both Protestant and Catholic services were provided for Battalion units. Catholic services were conducted by the Battalion Chaplain; protestant services were conducted by various neighboring chaplains and in their absence, by our own Protestant layleaders.

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